

ROBIN BACHTLER CUSHMAN PHOTOGRAPHY

2580 McMillan St Eugene OR 97405 541/302-9424 RBCphoto@att.net

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Dr. Jane E. Henney, Commissioner
Food and Drug Administration
Dockets Management Branch H-F 305
5803 Fishers Lane, Room 1081
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Commissioner Henney,

I am writing to you out of grave concern about labeling of genetically modified foods. Given the data already available, it is imperative to label such foods for identification from the seed to the table. Further long-term studies are sorely needed. Only in this way will we be able to track and study the effects of such genetic modifications on our environment and health. Only in this way will we be able to have a choice of buying or eating such foods.

As a horticulture photographer and amateur lepidopterist, I have already noted decreases in monarch populations attributable to modified corn.

As a consumer I am concerned about future, as yet unforeseen risks in consuming hormone-laden beef and milk, genetically modified soy, and other foods.

As a small business owner, I am worried about damaging family farms and the small, but thriving health foods industry.

As a citizen, I am feeling disenfranchised and angry that the FDA chose to hold only three meetings on this issue across the country, with virtually no notice to the public and advance notice to such companies as Monsanto.

It seems clear that the people have spoken-given the overwhelming response to the proposed Organic Foods Act and such public opinion polls as Time magazine's wherein 81% of people favored genetic labeling.

You are the official protector of the public. Where were you when our foods were being modified? Where are you now when we are asking you to protect us by mandating the labeling of our foods?

Please serve the public interest and safety and support labeling of genetically modified foods.

Sincerely yours,



Robin Bachtler Cushman

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CROSS FILE SHEET

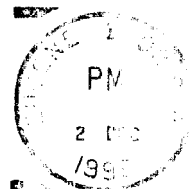
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Robin Hazen
2580 McMillan St
Eugene OR 97405-3115

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Dr. Jane E. Henney, Commissioner
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION
DOCKETS MANAGEMENT BRANCH H-F 305
5603 FISHERS LANE, ROOM 1061
ROCKVILLE, MD
20852

